

ever great importance if put to them in cold blood will not move large numbers of them to record their opinions. Even in the democratic atmosphere of the United States a referendum may not elicit responses from four-fifths of the voters : and at English elections the voting power of the constituency must be galvanized into activity by emotional appeals to other impulses than that of reasoning providence and by the dignified conveyance of voters to the polls. The provident impulse is, in fact, an inadequate stimulus, and it is necessary to awaken other instincts. Many lie at hand in the recesses of human nature, and skill in selecting and in arousing them is the talent of the successful politician. Admiration may be enlisted by appeals to loyalty, and by such organizations as that of the Primrose League : religious prejudice is a declining force, but it may still turn elections elsewhere than in Wales and Ireland : jealousy can usually be aroused by denunciations of the rich, and the orator can always fire the sympathies of his audience by eloquence that invokes the dignity of man. But the most potent of these extraneous impulses is that of emulation. This is the mainspring of the party spirit. Men who care little for Liberal or Conservative principles are roused by the contest between blue and buff. Party spirit is indeed the driving force of present-day democracy. It was aroused on the day when

first a question was decided by voting.  
and it has  
accordingly swayed the judgment of  
senates as  
well as of popular assemblies. But it  
is by no  
means peculiar to the political  
arena. Gibbon  
with his remorseless pen has described  
the bloody  
antagonisms which aroused by a  
liking for one  
or other of two companies of chariot  
drivers. or  
for one or other of two benches of  
bishops, divided